

REMARKS

Summary of Amendments

Claims 2 and 8 have been amended. Claim 2, formerly independent, by the present amendment has been made dependent on claim 1. Claim 8 has been amended for consistency in terms following on the amendments to claim 2.

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-11 remain as resulting from Applicant's amendment dated October 3, 2005 and submitted on filing the present application.

In common with claim 1, claim 2 recited a metallic lithium film onto which an inorganic solid electrolytic film is formed. In the case of claim 1, the lithium film is recited as being formed on an electrically insulating *substrate*. In the case of claim 2, the lithium film was recited as being formed on an electrically insulating *layer*, in turn formed on a metal base material.

Now claim 2 recites the metal base material as a further element of a negative-electrode component according to claim 1. The metal base material is recited as being on the electrically insulating *substrate* of claim 1, on the substrate's opposite side from where lithium film is formed.

The ordinary meaning of the term "substrate" does not preclude its being synonymous with "layer," nor does the present specification give any special definition to the term. Therefore, it is believed that claim 2 as amended still reads on the embodiment of the present invention that is represented in Fig. 2 of the specification, yet renders claim 1 generic to both the embodiment that is represented Fig. 1, as well as that represented in Fig. 2.

Election/Restriction

In a telephone to Applicant's undersigned representative on about October 8, 2008, a requirement for election between species, that of Fig. 1 and that of Fig. 2, was made.

In reply, in a return telephone call on October 14, 2008, Applicant's undersigned representative made an oral election of Species 1, that of Fig. 1 (and Embodiments 1 and 3), without traverse.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 are believed to read on the elected species. Nevertheless, as just noted, it is believed that as a result of the instant amendment claim 1 is now generic to both species identified by the Office.

Conclusion

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-11 are pending the Examiner's consideration on the merits. Favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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/James Judge/

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